

Army and Navy Chronicle,

AND SCIENTIFIC REPOSITORY.

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Congressional Documents.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITERS OF THE U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY.

U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY,
West Point, N. Y., June 20, 1842.

SIR: The Board of Visitors appointed to attend the general examination of the military academy, and to enter "into a full and free investigation of the military and scientific instruction of the cadets," and, also, "of the internal police, discipline, and fiscal concerns of the institution," beg leave to report:

That, in pursuance of your invitation, they assembled at West Point, and organized themselves as a board, on Monday, the 6th of June. After having notified the superintendent of their readiness to attend the examinations, they proceeded to appoint eight committees from their own number, with instructions to examine and make reports on the following subjects:

1. Fiscal concerns.
2. Internal police and discipline.
3. Public buildings.
4. Scientific instruction and apparatus.
5. Moral, religious, and literary instruction.
6. Organization and regulations.
7. Recommendations and suggestions of former boards of visitors.
8. Military instruction and exercises.
9. Mode of appointing cadets.

These reports have been duly made, and, though not in all cases adopted by the Board, they are herewith transmitted. The visitors have thought it advisable, in this their general report, to confine themselves to a simple statement of the results at which they have arrived, with such suggestions as are considered most worthy of the attention of the Department over which you preside.

In order to ascertain the merits and true state of such an institution, it is important to compare its operations and influence with its leading object and design. The design of this academy has been familiar to the people of the United States during the last fifty years. As early as 1796, General Washington, in his annual address at the opening of Congress, dwelt on the vast importance of maintaining the country in an attitude of defence, as the most effectual means of averting the calamities of war, adding, that if we "desire to secure peace—one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity—it must be known that we are at all times ready for war." After referring to the militia as the depository of the force of the Republic, and as capable of being trained to a degree of energy equal to every military exigency of the United States, he proceeds to suggest whether it ought not to be a material feature in its organization, that "opportunity be afforded for the study of those branches of the military art which are scarcely ever to be attained by practice alone." In a later message he reverts to the same subject, and recommends this as the true course for a nation whose policy is pacific, since it preserves and perpetuates "an adequate stock of military knowledge," without the expense and other unavoidable evils incident to a

standing army. He insists that, "whatever argument may be drawn from particular examples, superficially viewed, a thorough examination of the subject will evince that the art of war is at once comprehensive and complicated; that it demands much previous study; and that the possession of it, in its improved state, is always of great moment to the security of the nation. This, therefore," he continues, "ought to be the serious care of every government; and for this purpose an academy, where a regular course of instruction is given, is an obvious expedient, which different nations have successfully employed." It must be remembered that these were conclusions to which the wisdom of this great mind had been brought by the war of the Revolution, and by a thorough acquaintance with the evils and disappointments which must be experienced by any people, however virtuous and intelligent, and though animated by an enthusiasm ever so lofty, if they are called to engage in war without military science.

These appeals of the father of our country were seconded by his two successors in office, and previous to 1810 important steps had been taken towards organizing this institution. In that year the attention of Congress was pointedly called to the subject by Mr. Madison. "The means," says he, in his annual message, "by which wars, as well for defence as offence, are now carried on, render these schools of the more scientific operations an indispensable part of every adequate system. In a country, happily, without the other opportunities, seminaries, where the elementary principles of the art of war can be taught without actual war, and without the expense of extensive standing armies, have the precious advantage of uniting an essential preparation against external dangers with a scrupulous regard to internal safety. In no other way, probably, can a provision of equal efficacy for the public defence be made at so little expense, or more consistently with the public liberty." Since these remarks were written, the art of war, in common with all other departments of human skill, has made great advances, and it is believed that each of these advances has tended to make science more important to the officer, and thus has rendered seminaries in which such science is taught more and more necessary to the safety of nations. In other countries this truth is deeply felt and appreciated; and the care with which such seminaries are cherished there, should admonish us that we are not to hope that the want of military science can be superseded by the ardor of our patriotism, or by the multitude of citizen-soldiers who have been nominally organized by the laws of the several States.

It appears, then, that the single object of the military academy is to spread over the country a competent number of citizens who have enjoyed the advantage of a thorough military education. Whether commissioned as officers, or employed in civil pursuits, their services will be equally valuable in the hour of danger. In proportion as they engage in useful employments, as instructors, engineers, or professional men, they will be less predisposed to war, and, while aiding the organization and discipline of the militia, will at the same time contribute to cultivate a desire for peace. When, however, the country reaches that fearful crisis which is sometimes un-

avoidable, (and which can always be best avoided by being foreseen and prepared for,) the spirit with which the graduates were imbued in the academy, the claims which the Republic, as a foster-parent, has upon them, and the avenues to distinction which will then open before every educated soldier, must constrain them to return to the public service; and patriotic citizens will not throng to the scene of danger more rapidly than will scientific officers qualified to discipline those citizens for the field, and to give the most decisive and useful effect to their operations. Native and untutored genius will, at the same time, find an appropriate theatre for bold and original movements; officers whose knowledge is the fruit of experience alone, will not be precluded from their proper share of responsibility; and while upon the graduates of the academy may devolve the humbler, but all important task of preparing forces for action, upon less educated, but more fortunate or daring spirits, may rest the glory of the decisive day. It is plain, therefore, that the academy contemplates the provision of one means of defence, alike cheap and efficient, which can be supplied from no other quarter, while it will not be likely to interfere with the advancement of those whose generous spirits are always fired by the call of a country in danger.

It remains, then, to inquire how far this institution answers the design with which it was established. To educate able officers in the present state of the art of war, requires that they should be thoroughly instructed in the elements of mathematical and physical science, and in the application of those elements, to the construction of works for attack and defence, and to all the operations of an army, whether in camp or in the field. It requires, also, that the student should be trained by long practice in all the duties of the common soldier, and should be inspired with those feelings of subordination, and those sentiments of self-respect and love of country, which form the secret of the noblest and most memorable displays of martial valor.

And when we consider the commanding influence with which military officers are always invested, and especially when engaged in hostile operations—when it is remembered, too, that even in times of peace they are often stationed as the representatives of their country on the frontiers of foreign powers, and are also frequently called to hold intercourse with the uncivilized children of the forest in behalf of their Government—is it not unspeakably important that they should be men of unsullied moral purity, who feel their responsibility to God and to the cause of humanity, and who, though no created eye rests upon them, will still remain loyal to duty and honor? The Board would also add, that as no one in this age can be merely a member of a profession, but all are called to important duties, both as men and as citizens, it seems much to be desired that the cadet should be so educated as to be inspired with a taste for all liberal studies, and with a desire to employ every interval of leisure in the improvement of his mind, and in diffusing around him a higher civilization. We need not intimate that sound and vigorous health is pre-eminently necessary to the soldier, and that nothing should be allowed to supersede the requisite attention to physical culture.

In endeavoring, then, to ascertain how far the academy fulfils the objects for which it was established, the board have given special attention to the following points:

- I. Scientific and military instruction.
- II. Moral and religious culture.
- III. Internal police and discipline.
- IV. General regulations.

Having been invited by the Department of War to communicate suggestions for the improvement of the academy, the board avail themselves of the opportu-

nity; and they would refer to the reports of their several committees for a more detailed discussion of such hints as may be found embraced in their general report. In regard to other suggestions which have been made by the committees, but have not been formally adopted by the board, it has been thought proper to retain them for the inspection of the Department, as affording appropriate subjects for future inquiry.

The visitors are deeply impressed with the responsibility which is assumed by persons, some of whom are not only comparative strangers to the academy, but are also ignorant of military affairs, when they undertake to offer suggestions in respect to an institution which is the fruit of long study and experience, and which must owe its usefulness to a steady administration of well-matured principles. It may be observed, however, that the gradual improvement of all human plans is possible, and that this is to be attained by the free interchange of opinion between those who exercise authority on the one hand, and those who are called to examine and support such plans or institutions on the other.

Civilians may offer useful hints in regard to the intellectual and moral training of the future soldier. Military men, coming from different scenes and accustomed to other employments, may strike out some expedients for perfecting the organization or *regimen* of the corps not likely to occur to those concerned in its immediate government; and in this way this seminary, which should stand forth as the representative of our institutions and of the state of scientific culture among us, may be gradually and safely advanced to the utmost excellence consistent with the present condition of humanity.

The Board are happy to add that this healthy spirit of progress and improvement appears to have been cultivated at the academy. They find that suggestions offered by former boards have been carried into effect, and that material improvements have been introduced in the methods of instruction and in the system of military exercise in the course of the last fifteen years. It is by such a policy, at once liberal and cautious, that the institution will strengthen its claims on public regard, and will surround itself with a cordial good will and confidence which must arm it against the assaults of the ignorant and prejudiced, while it renders just and friendly criticism only subservient to its improvement and stability. Nothing, in the estimation of the subscribers, can be a more effectual means of guarding the institution from abuse, and retaining public support, than the method now pursued of throwing it open annually to the most rigid inspection, and of inviting suggestions in regard to its welfare and improvement. It might not be unwise to increase the number of visitors from remoter parts of the Union, where information is less likely to reach through ordinary channels, and also to select, as members of each succeeding board, one or more gentlemen who are known as unfriendly, either to the maintenance of the academy, or to its present system of administration and government.

It is due to the superintendent to add that every disposition has been manifested to enlighten the Board in regard to the actual condition of the academy, and all facilities for prosecuting inquiries have been promptly granted whenever applied for. With these preliminary remarks, the Board proceed to notice briefly the various topics already specified.

I. Scientific and military instruction.—The cadets were under examination fourteen days. During seven hours of each day the examinations were conducted in the hall assigned for that purpose, and were directed to an exhibition of the standing of the cadets as scholars in the several branches pursued during the last year. Each evening, at the close of the academic or scientific examination, an hour or more

was devoted to the military exercises and evolutions, designed to test the skill of the young gentlemen in the various duties which pertain personally to the soldier, and in the operations and movements which belong, respectively, to the infantry, cavalry, and artillery departments of the service. It gives the Board great pleasure to speak of the manner in which the examination was conducted, and of the degree of proficiency exhibited. Each cadet was subjected to a severe but kind scrutiny, and there seemed to be no doubt that the questions were put with impartiality, and in such a manner as to develop, with all the accuracy attainable in a limited time, the actual attainments and scholarship of each individual. No competent person could witness the progress of this examination, without being satisfied that the academy is supplied with an able and faithful body of instructors, and that these instructors appreciate the importance of special care in cultivating the reasoning powers and in forming such habits, both of precision in thought and of dexterity and neatness in graphic and other constructions, as will prepare the cadet for the studies and duties of future life. These are objects vastly more important than any amount of knowledge which could be derived from an academical course; but the Board have pleasure in adding that the pursuit of them is combined in this institution with thorough instruction in the best authors, and with the use of admirable apparatus for experiment and illustration. They cannot forbear referring here to the great improvement which has been made within the last fifteen years in the means and appliances for effectual teaching in these departments of the academy. There was then but little chemical and philosophical apparatus; the student was rarely exercised in the use of astronomical instruments; the department of engineering was not supplied with the requisite models for explaining the theory of machines and the various processes in civil and military construction; nor were the requisite aids provided for the students in drawing and in descriptive geometry. In all these respects, the academy is now endowed more amply than almost any institution with which the visitors are acquainted in this country; and there is every reason to believe that the instruments and models are faithfully applied by the instructors to the purposes for which they were intended.

It is not among the least of the benefits conferred on the country by the military academy, that, devoting a large portion of its course to mathematical and physical science, and being supplied by the munificence of Congress with ample means to procure able instructors and all necessary apparatus, it is enabled by these means to exhibit to other seminaries the model of a high and rigorous course of scientific instruction, and thus to incite those seminaries to a generous emulation. It also trains up young men, who are eminently qualified to fill professorships in colleges and other institutions of learning, and others, again, who are employed with distinguished advantage to the public in civil engineering, both in the service of the States and in that of private corporations. This country has not yet been able to contribute greatly to the extension of the empire of science; but for a service so calculated to benefit mankind and to illustrate our national character, the Board would look more confidently to no class than to those who, through the severe and thorough elementary training given in this academy, have become accomplished in the use and application of the most powerful instruments of modern discovery.

The following have occurred to the Board as the only material improvements which are needed in this department: (a) A new and improved transit instrument. (b) An addition to the cabinet of natural history, which, in its present state, hardly comports

with the wants of the students or with the character of the academy. It is suggested here whether some arrangements might not be made with the naval department to employ ships on foreign stations in procuring specimens for the use of the academy; and also, whether a plan might not be adopted through which the superfluous stores that are fast accumulating in the National Institution, recently opened at Washington, would be made available for the same purpose.

(c) The Board would also suggest the expediency of having an annual published each year at the academy, which shall contain, beside the ordinary matter of almanacs and registers, a record of events more immediately connected with the history and organization of the institution.

(d) Fifty additional horses and a separate building for a riding school are also needed. Great advantage has accrued, both to the health and the military accomplishments of the cadets, by the introduction of cavalry exercise; but the present number of horses (40) is insufficient for the double duty (cavalry and artillery) in which they are employed, and should, therefore, be increased.

It is also incumbent on the visitors to express their opinion that the apartment now used as a riding school (which is found to be indispensable in inclement weather) is not only inconvenient, but dangerous. It is the opinion of members of the Board who are familiar with such subjects, that a separate edifice ought to be constructed, and that it might be erected for the sum of \$1,200 or \$1,500.

The visitors would also suggest, as a proper subject for the consideration of the superintendent and academic staff, some extension of the literary course now pursued in the academy, especially during the fourth and last year. It is doubted whether the graduates quit the academy in all cases with that degree of cultivation which is necessary to make them useful and accomplished, either as agents of the Government or as members of society. The Board are aware of the difficulty of contracting the course of study which pertains more immediately to the military profession, and they only present the subject as one which, in their estimation, is worthy of attention. They would suggest especially whether some opportunities should not be afforded for cultivating elocution, and also whether, by requiring the cadets to write dissertations on subjects connected with their course in ethics and in other kindred studies, their powers of expression might not be materially improved. In the opinion of the Board, no officer can be considered as duly educated, even for his special duties, unless he have some acquaintance with the law of nations, with physical geography and history, and more especially with the geography and history of his own country. It is worthy of consideration whether ampler provision cannot be made for these studies, and whether it would not be expedient to relieve the chaplain and professor of ethics, whose duties are already too arduous, either by the creation of a separate professorship, or by the appointment of one or more additional and able assistants.

II. Moral and religious instruction.—The Board witnessed the examination in the department of ethics with great satisfaction. It offered unquestionable evidence of the zeal and ability with which the professor and his assistants have discharged their duty, and evinced on the part of the cadets a good degree of acquaintance with the principles of moral science and with the elements of the law of nations.

In regard to ethical studies, the Board would remark, that since they are intended to impress the mind with convictions of the supremacy of God, the responsibilities of man, and the various duties of the citizen, no amount of time or labor can be misapplied. If the portion of the course devoted to actual study and

recitation in this department appear too limited, it may be proper to reflect that the professor of moral philosophy is called, as chaplain, to dwell on these topics from the sacred desk, where he speaks with the authority of a Christian minister, and enforces his lessons with the solemn sanctions of religion. This forms a most important and responsible part of his duties. It gives the Board pleasure to express their belief that these duties are discharged with fidelity, judgment, and talent. Intrusted, as spiritual pastor, with the guidance and instruction of young men from all parts of our country, who are connected by education and family ties, if not by bonds of a still more sacred nature, with various religious denominations, the incumbent of such a post needs much wisdom as well as zeal. The rights and prejudices of all are to be respected, truth is to be exhibited in the spirit of love and charity, reverence for parental instruction is to be cherished, and a fearless exhibition is to be made of the claims of God and the retributions of his law. For the fulfilment of a trust so delicate and difficult, we must look rather to the prudence and energy of the agent than to any provisions of law, and your committee therefore conclude this part of their report with the expression of their confidence that in these respects the office will continue to be discharged in its true spirit.

III. Internal police discipline.—There is no department of the academy more important, in the estimation of the Board, than this. The didactic instructions of the chaplain and professor of ethics must prove, in a great degree, powerless, unless they are enforced by the example of those with whom the cadets are placed in more immediate contact, and from whom they insensibly imbibe their notions of honor and morality. Separated as they are from the watchful and anxious eye of parents, congregated under circumstances which afford many facilities for propagating the influence of evil example, and deprived of the restraining and refining influences of domestic and social life, they stand in peculiar need of a wise and parental supervision—one which, while it cultivates the habits and spirit of a soldier, will also cherish the affections and principles that adorn the man. The Board would suggest, therefore, that too great care cannot be taken in selecting the agents to whom this most responsible charge is to be intrusted.

They would, at the same time, express their doubt whether the present method of employing cadets as assistants in this department of the academy might not be advantageously replaced, by increasing the number of officers. The duty of supervising and reporting upon the conduct of equals and associates, is at once difficult and invidious; and were it possible to hope that youthful virtue would not sometimes yield to the pressing temptations which must beset it, there might still be reason to doubt whether the most exact and rigorous fulfilment of such a duty can be favorable to the character either of him who reports or of those who are reported.

The Board would also suggest that a benignant influence would be applied to the minds of these young men if they could be made to feel, when they have once offended, that contrition and amendment will secure oblivion for the past, and that their ultimate standing, when they leave the academy and enter on life, will not be fatally or very injuriously affected by the delinquencies of their early and more inexperienced years. By the present system, it is understood that the demerit marks, incurred during the first year of the course, enter to some extent into the final determination of the rank of the cadet; and though the subject is confessedly one of much difficulty, and it ill becomes the Board to express a decided judgment in regard to it, they would still submit it to the Department as one not entirely unworthy of considera-

tion. It is believed that a system of moral and even military training will prove salutary and powerful, in proportion as the more generous sentiments of our nature are enlisted in its support, and the animating influence of hope and love are substituted for the chilling effects of fear.

There are two other topics connected with this subject to which the Board feel bound to refer. The one of these is the state of the older building used as a barrack. In this building two or three cadets are required to occupy the same room in common, for the three-fold purpose of studying, sleeping, and dressing; and this room is not more than twelve feet square and eight feet high, with a door leading directly into the open air.

The slightest acquaintance with the laws of health must teach us, that such an arrangement is scarcely consistent with the physical safety and comfort of these cadets. The consideration, however, to which the Board would in this place call your special attention, is, that such a distribution of young men is not compatible with the maintenance of the most efficient moral police. Experience has taught, that where persons are brought together for moral or intellectual discipline, evil is prevented and good attained just in proportion as they are isolated from each other, *especially at night*, so that they can be free at this season from the contagion of bad example, and enjoy the precious advantage of solitude and reflection. The Board know of no improvement more imperiously required by the welfare of the cadets, or more fitted to impart increased efficiency to the discipline of the academy, than the erection of a new edifice, in which proper regard shall be paid to those architectural arrangements which have been extensively adopted in philanthropic and literary institutions within the last thirty years, and which have proved eminently conducive alike to health, innocence, and self-culture.

The other subject to which the visitors would briefly refer, in this connection, is the practice of sending young men immediately after their admission as cadets into an encampment. Here they mix freely with those who, with more age and experience, have contracted, in some instances, greater immorality. The restraints of study and regular recitation are withdrawn; the unsophisticated youth, who has just come from the shelter of a father's roof, is exposed to the fascinations of those whom he regards as more accomplished than himself; and it ought not to excite surprise, if at the expiration of six or eight weeks he should sometimes enter the barracks, and commence his studies deteriorated in morals, and predisposed to offences which will provoke the displeasure of his superiors, and perhaps soon send him back, stained with disgrace, to afflicted and dishonored parents.

The first few months of a cadet's residence at the academy are the most eventful of his whole course, and it seems to the Board that, by this arrangement, they are months fraught with peculiar danger. They owe it, however, to justice to say, that the opinions which they thus express are the result of reasoning on general principles, and are not suggested by the knowledge of actual mischiefs which have occurred at the academy. In the estimation of many persons well qualified to judge, the evils are more than counterbalanced by attendant benefits; but, inasmuch as the subject is one of great importance, the Board may be indulged in this allusion to it. It is, therefore, submitted whether it would not be better that the members of the fourth class should be examined during the month of August, and whether the time which intervenes between their examination and their entrance upon their studies, should not be spent in the barracks at night, and under the special charge of officers detailed for that purpose, whose duty it should be to give a right direction to their reading and other

pursuits, and to prepare them for entering with every advantage on their future course.

IV. Regulations.—Some changes in regard to these have already been suggested, and the Board will confine itself to the notice of but one or two others, referring for details to the reports to which they have already called your attention. If the limits of this paper allowed, and if it comported with the views which the visitors entertain of their duty, it would be easy and grateful to speak in terms of unaffected admiration of the skill with which the system of regulations and government was prepared at first, and of the success with which it has been administered. If they venture to suggest that useful modifications in such a system are possible, it is not that they would derogate from the services of those who, in past times, have been intrusted with the charge of the academy, but that they would see this noble monument of their wisdom and devotion rise to a yet higher eminence, and thus serve to perpetuate more widely and with more enduring fame the recollection of their labors. In regard to the form in which the rules and regulations are now printed, the Board would remark, that having in a long course of years become complicated and very numerous, they require to be digested and simplified, and that the attention of the superintendent and other authorities might be directed with advantage to this point.

In regard to the regulations for the *appointment of cadets*, the Board are not prepared to recommend any specific change, nor are they certain that change of any kind would be introduced with advantage. They are aware that apprehensions have been entertained that the academy is open rather to the sons of the wealthy and powerful than to those of all classes of our citizens. Their personal observations, however, and the inquiries which they have made as a Board, satisfy them that this impression is without foundation. They have met here more than one hundred young men from all parts of the country who have received appointments within the last year, and who are now awaiting their examination. No person can see them without feeling that they are the sons, in most cases, of the farmers and working men of the country, and several of them are known to the visitors as orphans without property, or as members of families in the humblest circumstances. In order, however, to inform themselves more fully of the facts which pertain to the question, the Board requested detailed information from the superintendent in regard to the parentage and pecuniary condition of the present members of the academy. A copy of this return is herewith submitted. It is too long to be included in this report, and the visitors therefore content themselves with stating the most important results.

Of 217, the whole number reported, 56 were sons of farmers and 3 of planters, 14 were sons of mechanics, 5 of boarding-house or inn-keepers, 12 of physicians, 27 of lawyers, judges, recorders, &c., 10 of officers in the army, 5 of officers of the Government, 4 of clergymen, 48 had no fathers living, and 23 may be termed miscellaneous, being sons of iron-masters, railroad contractors, &c. 182 out of the whole are represented as being in indigent, reduced, or moderate circumstances, and of this number the families of 144 resided in the country. In the opinion of the Board, these facts afford conclusive refutation of the idea that the benefits of the academy are enjoyed chiefly, or even materially by the children of the wealthy and influential.

It is worthy of remark, also, that when the cadets are once admitted and invested with the uniform of the corps, they are thenceforth known, both among themselves and to their officers, only as candidates for the honors of the institution. Those honors, under the present system, must inevitably be borne away by talent, industry, and virtue. No favors of

fortune can screen the perversely idle or profligate from the severest penalties of the academic code. Indeed, it is found, as might have been expected, from the want of discipline which often obtains in wealthy and fashionable families, that such penalties are incurred with disproportioned frequency by *their* representatives; and when they escape, it is to learn the salutary lesson that there are places where neither birth, wealth, nor rank, can give immunities, and where merit is the only passport to distinction or success. Thus it should be. The liberality of the Government has wisely placed this institution above the need of courting wealthy patronage, and has made it a school for the children of the republic, without distinction of name or party. With this should be ranked, as another of its distinguishing advantages, the fact that, in this academy, young men from all the various sections of the Union are placed side by side as companions and friends, and are thus gradually led to rise above those local prejudices and jealousies which have been so fruitful of evil in times past, and from which so much may be apprehended in times to come.

A plan has been submitted to the Board, by one of its committees, for placing the appointment of cadets more directly in the hands of the people, and for securing to it a greater share of public confidence, by opening places in different districts of the Union for the examination and admission of the most worthy candidates.

The Board do not doubt that weighty reasons may be adduced in favor of some plan of this kind, and they are confident that the Department over which you preside will always be found ready to bestow due attention on any measure which proposes to preclude partiality in the selection of candidates, or to open a broader path of preferment to friendless or modest merit. Being unable, however, to determine how far evils exist under the present system of appointment, or how far the one proposed would be likely to obviate such evils, or to lead to new ones, the Board have waived any final action on the subject, and forward the plan for your private inspection, and to be placed on file in the archives of the Department.

The Board have now concluded the duty assigned them. They came together from different parts of the country, strangers, in most instances, to each other, uninstructed in regard to the precise condition or character of the academy, and some of them not without strong misgivings in regard to its tendency and influence. They have been careful observers of what has transpired in the course of the examination, and have neglected no measures which they thought likely to put them in complete possession of the actual state of the institution. Their private opinions have been freely compared and canvassed; the enthusiastic admiration of some has been qualified by the colder approbation of others; and they now separate, not only with cordial regard for each other, but with substantial unanimity on the subject that brought them together. It is their deliberate and unanimous judgment that the institution is an honor to the country, and the source of benefits which are most cheaply purchased at their present annual cost to the Treasury. It is their belief, also, that its means and resources for instruction and discipline are steadily improving, and that, under the eye of a watchful public supervision, its officers have the strongest possible incentives to fidelity. With the freedom and frankness which became them, they have pointed out a few supposed defects, and have suggested improvements; but this they have not done for the want of more agreeable topics. As Americans, they rejoice that their country has one *national* institution for the cultivation of science, to which she can point with honest pride. They re-

joice that the adopted children, and future defenders of the Union are trained amid scenes where physical beauty and grandeur conspire with sublime moral recollections to awaken generous emotions and lofty sentiments; and they take their leave of these scenes with the unwavering hope and trust that the academy will long flourish, strong in the affections of the people, blessed with a wise and faithful supervision, and rich in benefits to our common country.

Very respectfully submitted.

ROBERT B. M'AFEE, *Kentucky, President.*

ALONZO POTTER, *New York, Secretary.*

THOMAS A. DEBLOIS, *Maine.*

IVERS J. AUSTIN, *Massachusetts.*

E. P. WALTON, *Vermont.*

WILLIAM BLODGET, *Rhode Island.*

ALEX. DALLAS BACHE, *Pennsylvania.*

GEORGE P. MACCULLOCH, *New Jersey.*

GEORGE H. STEWART, *Maryland.*

ALEXANDER M'REA, *North Carolina.*

CHURCHILL J. BLACKBURN, *Kentucky.*

WILLIAM DENNISON, Jr., *Ohio.*

JOHN J. FLOYD, *Indiana.*

FRED. W. CURTEMIAS, *Michigan.*

FRED. HALL, *District of Columbia.*

M. C. PERRY, *United States Navy.*

J. J. ABERT, *United States Army.*

P. H. GALT, *United States Army.*

To the SECRETARY OF WAR.

DISTINGUISHED CADETS AT THE EXAMINATION IN JUNE, 1842.

First class.—Henry L. Eustis, Mass.; John Newton, Va.; George W. Rains, Ala.; John D. Kurtz, D. C.; William S. Rosecrans, Ohio.

Second class.—Thomas J. Brereton, D. C.; William B. Franklin, Penn.; George Deshon, Conn.; William F. Reynolds, Ohio; Roswell S. Ripley, N. Y.

Third class.—William G. Peck, Conn.; Samuel Gill, Ky.; J. H. Whittlesey, N. Y.; Daniel M. Forest, N. Y.; Ashur R. Eddy, R. I.

Fourth class.—Louis Hebert, La.; W. H. C. Whiting, Mass.; Henry Coppée, Ga.; Edward B. Hunt, N. Y.; W. F. Smith, Ver.

OFFICERS AND PROFESSORS OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

Inspector.

Colonel Joseph G. Totten, *Chief Engineer, and (ex officio) Inspector.*

Academic Staff.

Major Richard Delafield, *Corps of Engineers, Superintendent and Commandant.*

Dennis H. Mahan, A. M., *Professor of Engineering.*
2d Lieut. R. Q. Butler, *Corps of Engineers, Assistant Professor.*

2d Lieut. Z. B. Tower, *Corps of Engineers, Acting Assistant Professor.*

Capt. A. J. Swift, *Corps of Engineers, Instructor of Practical Engineering.*

W. H. C. Bartlett, A. M., *Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy.*

1st Lieut. Joseph Roberts, *4th artillery, Assistant Professor.*

1st Lieut. W. Gilham, *3d artillery, Acting Assistant Professor.*

1st Lieut. A. E. Shiras, *4th artillery, Ass't Professor.*

Albert E. Church, A. M., *Professor of Mathematics.*

Bvt. Capt. W. K. Hanson, *7th infantry; 1st Lieut. George Taylor, 3d artillery; 1st Lieut. Isreal Vogdes, 1st artillery; 1st Lieut. W. B. Blair, 2d Lieut. F. N. Clarke, 4th artillery; Acting Assistant Professor.*

Jacob W. Bailey, *Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy, and Geology.*

1st Lieut. H. L. Kendrick, *2d artillery, Ass't Prof.*

Rev. M. P. Parks, *Chaplain and Professor of Geography, History, and Ethics.*

2d Lieut. E. P. Scammon, *Topographical Engineers, Assistant Professor.*

1st Lieut. I. S. K. Reeves, *1st artillery, Acting Assistant Professor.*

Claudius Berard, H. R. Agnel, *Teachers of the French Language.*

2d Lieut. T. d'Orémicux, *1st infantry, 2d Lieut. H. G. Wright, Corps of Engineers, Acting Assistant Teachers.*

Robert W. Wier, N. A., *Teacher of Drawing.*

2d Lt. Richard S. Smith, *7th infantry, Ass't Teach.*

1st Lieut. J. A. Thomas, *3d artillery; Commandant of Cadets and Instructor of Tactics.*

1st Lieut. E. J. Steptoe, *3d artillery, 1st Lieut. J. H. Eaton, 3d infantry; 1st Lieut. H. C. Wayne, 2d artillery; 1st Lieut. Lucius H. Allen, 2d artillery; Assistant Instructors.*

1st Lieut. Miner Knowlton, *1st artillery, Instructor of Artillery and Cavalry Tactics.*

H. R. Hersherberger, *Instructor of Riding.*

Military Staff.

1st Lieut. Irwin McDowell, *1st artillery, Adjutant.*

Charles Davies, *Paymaster.*

Walter V. Wheaton, M. D., *Surgeon.*

C. M. Hitchcock, M. D., *Assistant Surgeon.*

RECRUITING SERVICE.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington, November 14, 1842.

The Adjutant General respectfully submits the following statement showing the whole number of recruits enlisted in the army from the 1st of October, 1841, to the 30th of September, 1842.

1. GENERAL RECRUITING SERVICE.

Lieut. Col. N. S. Clarke, *8th Regiment of Infantry, General Superintendent, stationed at N. Y.*

Portsmouth, N. H.,	17	Trenton, N. J.,	2
Boston, Mass.,	45	Easton, Penn.,	1
New Bedford, do.,	15	Philadelphia, do.,	94
Lowell, do.,	18	Reading, do.,	16
Worcester, do.,	5	Lancaster, do.,	1
Providence, R. I.,	42	Pittsburg, do.,	82
Hartford, Conn.,	35	Brownville, do.,	2
New Haven, do.,	19	Bridgewater, do.,	2
Bridgeport, do.,	1	Baltimore, Md.,	97
Waterbury, do.,	2	Frederick, do.,	1
New York, N. Y.,	320	Cumberland, do.,	41
Fort Columbus, do.,	8	Washington, D. C.,	1
Fort Wood, do.,	13	Louisville, Ky.,	79
Albany, do.,	113	Newport, do.,	108
Troy, do.,	46	New Orleans, La.,	31
Schenectady, do.,	30	Number of recruits	
Utica, do.,	44	enlisted for the	
Syracuse, do.,	91	general service, -	1,430
Auburn, do.,	2		
Rochester, do.,	6		

2. RECRUITING SERVICE FOR THE DRAGOONS.

Major C. Wharton, *1st Regiment of Dragoons, superintendent stationed at Carlisle Barracks, Penn.*

Boston, Mass.,	88
New York, N. Y.,	149
Carlisle, Penn.,	20

Number of recruits enlisted for the dragoons, 257

3. BY REGIMENTS.

1st reg't of dragoons,	8	3d reg't of infantry,	21
2d reg't of dragoons,	57	4th reg't of infantry,	30
1st reg't of artillery,	59	5th reg't of infantry,	58
2d reg't of artillery,	98	6th reg't of infantry,	21
3d reg't of artillery,	42	7th reg't of infantry,	48
4th reg't of artillery,	137	8th reg't of infantry,	4
1st reg't of infantry,	44		675
2d reg't of infantry,	48		

Detachment at West Point, - - - -	24
Band at West Point, - - - -	3
For the Medical Department, - - - -	2
	29
	=

Total number enlisted from the 1st October, 1841, to the 20th September, 1842, - - - 2,391

4. RECAPITULATION.

For the general service, {	Dragoons, - - -	257
	Art'y and Infan'y, 1,430	
By regiments, - - - {	Dragoons, - - -	65
	Artillery, - - -	336
	Infantry, - - -	274
By detachments, - - - -		29
		2,391

5. Amount of recruiting funds advanced to officers of the army, from the 1st of October, 1841, to the 30th September, 1842, - - - - - \$29,011 42

Amount of those funds accounted for within the same period, - - - - - 24,630 89

Balance in the hands of recruiting officers on the 30th of September, 1842, - - - - - \$4,380 53

6. In anticipation of the provisions of the act respecting the organization of the army, approved August 23, 1842, the general recruiting service was suspended by special instructions, dated the 5th of August.

The accompanying statement E, shows the strength, in enlisted men, of the several regiments, on the 30th September, and the excess at that date, of the privates over the number now authorized in each company, (50 of dragoons, and 42 of artillery and infantry,) as well as the number then deficient. According to the latest returns the excess in all the regiments was 1,435, the greatest being 211, in the 4th infantry, and the least 27, in the 1st artillery. In two of the regiments there was a deficiency, to wit: in the 3d artillery 31, in the 2d dragoons 69 privates.

The several rendezvous and depots of instruction have been broken up, and all the recruits been assigned and sent to companies; so as to equalize, as far as practicable, the rank and file of the several regiments. When the recruits shall have joined, it is estimated that the average excess in the regiments of artillery will be about 117, and of the infantry 165. The loss and casualties incident to troops stationed at permanent posts and on the sea-board, being far less than when serving on the frontiers and less advantageously quartered, rendered it proper in the arrangement to make the difference in the number of privates rather in favor of the infantry companies.

It is estimated that the excess (2,160) exhibited in the table E, will, by deaths, desertions, and discharges on account of disability, (none by expiration of service,) be reduced by the 30th of June, 1843, to 1200; and this number will be further reduced by about 680 discharges* during the last half year of 1843, to which add the loss occasioned by ordinary casualties of service, say 354, which would leave, on the 31st of December, of that year an excess of about 150 men. It will not, therefore, it is supposed, be necessary to resume the recruiting service, unless the army be increased, sooner than early in the year 1844.

Respectfully submitted,

R. JONES, *Adjutant General.*

Major General WINFIELD SCOTT,

Commanding the Army.

* 95 dragoons, 231 artillery, and 354 infantry; total 680.

Miscellany.

From the United Service Magazine.

NAVAL IMPROVEMENTS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

POWDER BARRELS.—The pernicious damp of most magazines, and the consequent deterioration of the gunpowder, had long been a ground of serious complaint among intelligent officers. Those who wished to keep their ships in proper efficiency for combat, insisted on frequently turning the filled cartridges and the barrels; and throughout the navy this was a periodic employment to prevent lumpiness, during which ceremony all the fires were extinguished, and the lights also, save that in the light room. In the barrels commonly employed, from the wood of which they are composed not being perfectly dry, or from its quality of absorbing atmospheric moisture, and transmitting it to their contents, the powder becomes lumpy, and frequently spoiled. Hence, while these barrels were solely used, the quantity of powder that was returned unserviceable from ships of war, and to be remade, was enormous. To prevent this evil, Lord Stanhope endeavored to procure the employment of copper casks, but failed, they being "contrary to the established regulations of the service;" and full twenty years before we used them, they were adopted in the Turkish navy, pursuant to the advice of an English shipwright. At length, Walker's patent copper barrels were introduced into the service about 1812; and were found, of course, to be infinitely superior in the safe conveyance and preservation of gunpowder to the wooden ones, while the disagreeable cooping, with its adzes, drivers, vices, and other tools, so *awkward* in a magazine, are done away with. Moreover, as the powder is stowed in cartridges, the often times dangerous operation of filling is avoided, as well as, from the perfect exclusion of damp, the necessity of turning the powder from time to time.

Rear Admiral Sir Benjamin Hallowell strongly advocated their general adoption in the navy; and in 1814 he made some very conclusive experiments at Tarragona, from which it appears that the strength of powder preserved in the patent barrels is to that which is kept in the usual manner, in the ratio of about four to three, in a medium. This is certainly an important consideration for a ship going into action, and can be relied upon as the result of actual trial. But there is a little defect in the evidence; for though we may gather from the report when the copper barrels were received on board the *Malta*, it states no particulars as to the time, and original quality of the powder in the wooden ones. There is, however, presumptive proof that both powders were from one sample, and stowed under similar circumstances.

SEA BISCUIT.—From the days of Belisarius to the present day, sea-biscuit has remained comparatively a rude, laborious, unclean manufacture; besides which, the difficulty of making it fast enough for a sudden demand, by *manipulation*, was so great, that at Portsmouth wagon loads were unpacked in the streets, and at once conveyed on board the ships preparing to start, there not being sufficient time to convey the biscuit from the contractors to the victualling department in the usual way. Improvement, perhaps perfection, has however reached this department, in the present century. Yet the expedition formerly used in our naval bakehouses was such as scarcely to lead one to expect much advancement; for forty-five men used to produce fourteen hundred weight of biscuit per hour, while seventy biscuits could be thrown into an oven and regularly arranged within one minute; nor did the expense of making and baking

exceed 19d. the hundred weight. But the superiority of machinery over manual labor was never more fully exemplified; for the new method at Gosport, without adding to the number of ovens, can produce twenty hundred weight per hour, at only 5½d. the hundred weight, including an allowance for wear and tear of the machinery; and the biscuit is of a quality so much better as greatly to diminish the probability of its ever being flinty or unequally baked. The first operation of mixing the flour and water together—formerly the laborious task of a bare-armed man called the *driver*—now takes place in a large hollow cylinder, wherein the water admitted is regulated by a guage. Through the centre of this a shaft passes, armed with a number of knives; and revolving horizontally through the meal and water, the latter is forced to a consistency, and becomes superior dough, in the astonishingly short period of two minutes. The quantity of dough thus made at each *set to*, is five hundred weight; and the cylinder is so constructed, that the lower half is easily separated from the upper sides, whereby the new-made mass is readily removed and placed under heavy breaking rollers, to undergo the second operation, that of kneading, an affair of five minutes. The sheet of dough, which is about two inches thick, is then cut into pieces half a yard square, which pass under a second set of rollers, by which each piece is extended to the size of six feet by three, and reduced to the proper thickness.

All this is sufficiently obvious to excite no great surprise in those acquainted with machinery; but the next operation—cutting the sheet into biscuits—is not less beautiful than simple. “Look to the ant,” is an old adage, to which we may add, “look to the bee.” The dough is brought under a stamping and cutting press, wherein a series of sharp knives are so arranged that by one movement they cut, out of a piece of dough a yard square, about sixty *hexagonal* biscuits, each stamped with the royal mark, and punctured with holes. The reason for this honeycomb shape is, that not a particle of waste is thereby occasioned, as the sides of each hexagon accurately fit with those of the adjoining biscuits. The cutters do not entirely sever the dough, so that whole sheets can be put into the oven at once, where about ten or twelve minutes are enough to bake them; they are then withdrawn, and broke asunder by the hand. Thus bread is produced, almost without the intervention of handling, by a process of which the advantages are, quality, cleanliness, expedition, cheapness, and independence of contract; nor is it the least important feature of this machinery, that the most ordinary laborers are equal to all the work, except that of heating and managing the ovens, which is the office of men called *furners*, the only tradesmen who will in future be required.

WATER.—We have elsewhere alluded to the admirable amelioration of this fluid, by the introduction of iron tanks; and the mode of procuring it from the hold, by Captain Truscott's forcing-pump, without disturbing the stowage and lumbering the decks for a daily supply, as was the practice according to the “established regulations” of the service. But in thus noticing a change which none but the master's mates of the late war can truly appreciate, we feel that more attention than is always bestowed should be paid to the introduction of pure and wholesome fluid into the said tanks. Indeed, we have witnessed the most culpable negligence on this point in tropical climates, and while bad water was brought on board, the men who have been kept standing in a marsh or pool to bale it up in buckets, have thereby also brought off their death-warrants. The operation of watering being necessarily as various as the geographical details where it is to be carried on, there is no prescribed mode of performing it, although it is a duty of prime necessity, of constant recurrence, and fre-

quently attended with great labor and difficulty, besides the breaches of discipline incident to landing a large body of seamen for such purpose.

Under this conviction, it was therefore with great pleasure that we examined our friend Captain William Fisher's portable apparatus for conveying water to considerable distances, and we think it of importance both to the public service and to humanity. It consists of metal pipes of small diameter, adapting themselves by means of flexible joints to every inequality of the ground, connected with a forcing power capable of raising water from a depth of about thirty feet, and impelling it to a great distance, overcoming obstacles of considerable height. These pipes are easily portable, and of very simple construction. To avoid too much resistance in displacing the air and introducing the water, air-cocks or screws are placed at certain distances, and left open: the nearest to the spring is closed as soon as the water flows freely from it, and so on successively with the others, till the pipes are fully charged. An experienced officer will at once perceive the value of these tubes, since he must have found that when fine fresh water has been seen near the shore, an intervening strip of rock or bog has often precluded the possibility of obtaining it; and the supply has been taken from the almost stagnant lagoon formed on the verge of the beach.

ANNULAR SCUPPER.—The allusion to tropical climates leads us to a neat and effective contrivance, invented by Capt. Henry Downes, for carrying off water from flooded decks, and thereby remedying a serious defect which has so long escaped the notice of shipwrights, whose matey-made scupper-holes are unequal to the task. It will be recollected that, in 1834, this officer proposed a new method of fitting lower rigging, so that a shroud might be expeditiously shifted without lifting the eyes. He was led to devise the *annular scupper*, in consequence of having witnessed much inconvenience by the main-deck of the *Sybil* being flooded during heavy rains on the coast of Africa. In bad weather it was the practice in this frigate to drop the main-deck awning, hauling it out to cleats on the gangway, so that it resembled a roof. This had the desired effect as long as the ship remained steady; but when she rolled, the water came over the coamings in torrents, the tiny scupper-holes of “the established regulation” being unequal to the duty required in such copious falls of rain. The captain's plan is, the fixing a broad copper ring over the pipe-flap of the scupper, and inserting a moveable concentric ring, by which the scupper-hole's aperture can be enlarged from two inches in diameter to three inches and a half—a material difference as a passage for the escape of water. A model of the annular scupper was presented to the Admiralty in 1837, and being proved by trial, was reported to “answer completely.”

WOODEN RAILWAY BRIDGE.—A bridge has been constructed near Mottram, which attracts much notice. It is composed entirely of Memel timber, and consists of three arches, the span of the centre one being 150 feet, and the two others 135 and 120 feet, respectively. Each arch is composed of three ribs of laminated planking, nineteen planks being placed on each other, to the thickness of five feet. The centre arch is the largest ever built of timber; while that of London bridge is the largest in stone, being 152 feet; and the Great Western Railway Bridge at Maidenhead, is the largest in brick, 128 feet. The height of this bridge gives it a most colossal appearance. From the bed of the river to the parapet it is 130 feet; and a large manufactory on the banks of the stream, when viewed in contrast with its gigantic neighbor, seems a good sized doll-house; also a bridge of 60 feet span, just below, which in itself is a respectable piece of architecture, now appears really insignificant.—*Macclesfield Courier*.

ST. PAUL'S CLOCK, (LONDON).—A writer in the *Hartford Courant* thus describes the clock works in the tower of this cathedral:

The pendulum is fourteen feet long, and the weight at the end is one cwt.; the dials on the outside are regulated by a smaller one within; the length of the minute hands on the exterior dials is eight feet, and the weight of each seventy-five pounds; the length of the hour hands is five feet five inches, and the weight forty-four pounds each; the diameter of the dials is eighteen feet ten inches, and the length of the hour figures two feet two and a half inches. The fine toned bell, which strikes the hours, is clearly distinguishable from every other bell in the metropolis, and has been distinctly heard at the distance of twenty miles. It is about ten feet in diameter, and is said to weigh four and a half tons. This bell is tolled on the death of any member of the Royal family, of the Lord Mayor, Bishop of London, or Dean of the Cathedral.

The whole expense of building the cathedral was about a million and a half pounds sterling—in the United States currency about six and two-thirds millions of dollars.

WIRE ROPE, &c.—Mr. Andrew Smith gave, in the great room of the Society of Arts, London, an illustration of the properties of wire as applied to the manufacture of ropes, belts, bands, and chains for cables, standing rigging, lightning conductors, railway bridges, &c. This application of wire is an invention for which Mr. Smith has obtained a patent. It appeared from the description read by the Secretary, that wire rope is possessed of great strength and tenacity, and can be repaired with as much expedition and neatness as hempen. If the experiments detailed in the description are to be relied on, this novel species of rope may be considered as of double the strength of hempen rope. Some specimens of the manufacture were exhibited in the room, and they seemed, certainly, possessed of much neatness and vast strength. A wire bridge, of thirty-three feet span was also erected in the room, and experiments were made with a testing machine on the tenacity of wires of various metals before and after drawing.

THE CONSTELLATIONS.—We lately saw in an English paper mention of a fact, which must prove interesting to all lovers of astronomy, viz: That a new ideal configuration of the stars is in progress by the celebrated and industrious Herschell, who has begun with those in the southern hemisphere. Of course, this will make a great revolution in the appearance and nomenclature of the imagery on our present celestial globes; and while some will bitterly regret such an innovation on a system sanctioned by the approbation of mankind through many ages, others will doubtless rejoice when these hideous and grotesque groupings shall be replaced by beautiful designs and associations suited to our present increased knowledge, and to the sublimity of those glorious and immeasurable regions where "the heavens are telling the glory of God."—*Boston Mercantile Journal*.

NOVEL STEAMBOAT.—A steamboat is being built at New Castle, Delaware, by Capt. Robinson, upon an entire new plan. She is constructed without frame or timbers, being put together upon the principle of a hogshead, with iron hoops. She is eighty-five feet long, has twelve feet beam, guards included twenty-one feet, six feet hold, and when ready, will not draw more than two and a half feet water. The hooping does away with caulking, and, having no frame, gives her more room and less weight, as well as being a great saving of timber and money.

NOTICES TO MARINERS.

CAUTION TO MARINERS BOUND TO GUAYAQUIL.—A letter has been received at Lloyd's from Capt. M. P. Game, of the *Adela*, from which the following extracts are taken, and deserve the attention of all vessels bound to that port:

On the 1st of September arrived off the entrance of the river of Guayaquil, and despatched a boat to the town of Puna for a pilot. While beating up, meanwhile, with a slight breeze from the N. E. under easy sail towards the town, most unexpectedly and unfortunately struck the ground or a bank of hard sandy, not laid down in my chart; in fact, my large Spanish plan of the bay and river indicated seven fathoms, mud, near to the very spot where we struck.

As the bank is in the route of vessels going to Puna for a pilot, I notice the bearings, and would advise all masters of vessels bound up the river to anchor in front of Punta Expanola, at the head of Mola Bank, and send up for a pilot, for as yet the shoals have not been properly buoyed.

The above shoal is about half a mile in circumference, with hard sand. The shoalest part has five feet of water on it, and bears from Punta Mandingo S. 70 E., and from Punta Espanola N. 35 E., per compass. Distance from the nearest land $1\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile to $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

DANGEROUS SHOAL.—Extract from the log of the barque *Planet*, arrived at Mauritius, October 8th, from Calcutta: "Wednesday, September 7th, 1842. At 1 p. m., observed the water on the starboard how much discolored, kept the ship away, and sent a hand aloft to look out, who observed the same in patches as far as the eye could reach, running WSW and ENE; passed over the tail of one patch, and had as near as we could suppose nine fathoms on a sandy bottom, a quantity of sand fast to the lead when hauled in. The extent of the shoal appeared to be about three miles. Latitude 16 23 N, longitude 84 10 E." Captain Thompson farther states that in the centre of this shoal there were heavy beakers; the weather had been equally in the forenoon, but was then more moderate, though the breeze was fresh, and a swell in consequence. They had no meridian observation, but the longitude was determined and laid down by good sights taken that morning and an excellent chronometer.—*Mauritius Shipping List*.

THE THREE CHIMNEYS.—The Boston Atlas contains the following communication, which goes to confirm the account lately published of the existence of the dangerous rocks by this name, in the middle of the Atlantic:

Messrs. Editors: In a paper of yours, dated January 31st, I noticed a communication received at Lloyd's from Captain Roallons, of the *Eagle*, giving an account of a rock seen by him on his passage from Hamburg to Newfoundland; which he says, lies in lat. 47 37 N., and lon. 28 51 W; that it formed three distinct points, the highest to the westward appeared about eighty feet high. This rock is by most mariners considered of doubtful existence. It is laid down on the chart of the Atlantic in nearly the same position that Captain Roallons makes it, and is called the "Three Chimneys."

I would further state, that in 1819, on my passage in the ship *Susan*, from Gottenburg to Boston, I passed very near, say one fourth of a mile from this rock; that it formed three points; the highest and westernmost one from seventy to eighty feet, and others from thirty to forty feet above the level of the sea—there were no breakers to be seen around them. These rocks are not in the track of a ship bound to and from Europe; but those coming from the North Sea and having strong westerly wind to contend with, would be likely to gain the longitude of them by the time they reach their latitude.

WASHINGTON.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1843.

AFRICAN SQUADRON.—Captain MATTHEW C. PERRY, at present the Commandant of the Navy Yard at New York, has been ordered to hold himself in readiness for the command of the squadron on the coast of Africa.

The new sloop *Saratoga*, Commander TATNALL, now ready for sea at Portsmouth, N. H., will probably be the flag-ship. The brig *Porpoise* has already sailed for the coast, under the command of Lieut. A. LEWIS. One other sloop and three additional brigs or schooners will compose the squadron.

Among the numerous testimonials of sincere wishes for the success of the Chronicle, the following is especially gratifying:

At a meeting of a Regimental Council of the 8th Infantry, on the 28th January, (several of the officers having already subscribed and paid,) it was

"Resolved, That the Treasurer of the regimental fund be authorized to subscribe for eleven copies of the Army and Navy Chronicle, one for the library, and one for each company."

The full amount of subscription was forwarded.

Which regiment will be the next to pass a similar resolve?

On the next page will be found a list of the officers who served in the navy of the United States during the war of the Revolution, compiled in March, 1794. It may be imperfect; for there were no regular records kept, owing to the multiplicity of persons and boards who were vested with authority to make appointments; but it is more perfect than any that could now be formed. We believe it has never before been published.

The February number of the "Southern Literary Messenger" contains a dispassionate article on the "Moral and Religious Improvement in the Navy," dated on board the U. S. frigate *Constitution*. The increasing regard for religion among both officers and seamen in our navy we cannot but view with pleasure.

We are pleased to notice that the subject of the comfort and moral improvement of seamen is receiving increased attention at Norfolk.

The "*American Pioneer*" has reached the second number of the second volume. It is a spirited publication, "devoted to collecting and publishing incidents relative to the early settlement and successive improvement of the country," and is steadily increasing in interest. This number contains two engravings, and, among other interesting articles, sketches of Redstone Old Fort, by Jas. L. Bowman, and Battle of King's Mountain, by Benjamin Sharp.

Extract of a letter received by a gentleman in this city, dated

"SACRIFICIOS, January 24, 1843.

"We anchored two miles from the Mexican iron steamer *Guadaloupe* on Sunday, January 15th. She was lying off the town of Lerinas, which is about seven or eight miles from Campeche. The Mexicans are blockading Campeche, and, on account of their land forces, no communication can be held with the town. The blockading fleet consists of the following vessels, viz: the Admiral's ship, the iron steamer *Guadaloupe*. This vessel was built in England last year, and mounts four guns, two of which are eight-inch Paixhans, and the others twelve pounders; tonnage 700 tons. There is also another steamer, the *Dublin City*, mounting two carronades, two long guns, and one heavy long gun forward; two full-rigged brigs, two topsail schooners, one of which was built in New York last winter.

The Mexican officers on board of the *Guadaloupe* seemed to think that they would ultimately be successful in their attempts to take the place. They have captured two forts, and the Campecheanos have but one in their possession, and that is situated to the east, on a high hill, and commands the town. The Campecheanos have three or four small vessels lying below this fort.

"There are two American vessels lying off the town, one of which, went in before, and the other after the blockade commenced. The country all around is hilly. On the top of one of these hills, is a large fortification, bearing about west, two points south, distant between two and three miles.

"The Mexicans kept up a constant bombardment upon the town, from some situation back of it, while we were lying off, and once or twice, one of their vessels ran close in and fired upon them, for one or two hours. What effect their bombardment has had, I know not.

After several messages passing to and fro, and not being permitted to go ashore, we got under way on the 16th, and after a pleasant trip, arrived at Sacrificios, Friday afternoon, the 20th. A Spanish brig, mounting twenty guns, came in with us, where we found the French corvette *La Brillante* at anchor. I am becoming more and more attached to my profession."

Commander Wilson and the officers of the schooner *Enterprise*, by their vigorous exertions, saved the lives of the captain and five men of the brig *Nabob*, when in a sinking condition.

The *Pensacola Gazette* of the 4th instant, contradicts the rumor that has been in circulation of the sloop *Falmouth* having been fired into by a British steamer. The *Falmouth* was then at Pensacola, destined, says the Gazette, to bring our Minister from Mexico.

The following list was formed in 1794 from the minutes of the Marine Committee and Navy Boards, and from the rolls of the several vessels; many of the officers served only for a cruise.

A list of the commissioned officers who served in the navy of the United States in the war of the Revolution.

CAPTAINS AND COMMANDERS.

Esek Hopkins. He was commander-in-chief, and was suspended in March, 1777.
 James Nicholson.
 John Manly, dead.
 Hector McNeil, dead.
 Dudley Saltonstall, broke by court martial, October, 1779.
 Nicholas Biddle, blown up in the Randolph, Mar., 1778.
 Thomas Thompson, broke by court martial, July, 1778.
 John Barry.
 Thomas Read, dead.
 Thomas Grennell, dead.
 Charles Alexander, dead.
 Lambert Wickes, lost in the Reprisal, Oct., 1777.
 Abraham Whipple.
 John B. Hopkins, suspended in May, 1778.
 John Hodge.
 William Hallack.
 Hoystead Haiker.
 Isaiah Robinson, dead.
 John Paul Jones, dead.
 James Josiah.
 Elisha Hinman, broke.
 Joseph Olney, suspended in 1779.

LIEUTENANTS.

Thomas Albertson, dead.
 John Baldwin, dead.
 John Stevens.
 (The 3 lieutenants above named were appointed to command vessels.)
 John Angus, resigned.
 James Hermitage, disch'd.
 Blaney Allison, dead.
 Joseph Adams, deserted.
 Rhodes Arnold.
 Robert Adamson.
 Jacob Brooks.
 Philip Brown.
 Joshua Barney.
 John Bellenger, disch'd.
 Ezekiel Burroughs.
 John Brown.
 Benjamin Bates.
 Isaac Buck.
 William Barnes, lost in the Randolph.
 George Balson, dead.
 Christopher Bradley.
 Elijah Bowen.
 Samuel Cardal.
 David Cullam.
 John Channing.
 Silas Devol.
 Arthur Dillaway, dead.
 James Degge.
 Peter Deville,

James Robinson, dead.
 John Young, lost in the Saratoga, March, 1781.
 Elisha Warner, dead.
 (The rank of the above 24 captains was fixed in the order in which they stand by act of Congress of the 10th of October, 1776.)
 Peter Brewster, supposed to be lost at sea.
 Samuel Nicholson.
 John Nicholson.
 Henry Johnson.
 John P. Rathbon, dead.
 Peter Landais, broke by court martial, 1780.
 Daniel Waters.
 Thomas Simpson, dead.
 Samuel Tucker.
 Samuel Chew, dead.
 William Pickles, dead.
 John Green.
 John Skinner, dead.
 William Burke, resigned.
 Seth Harding.
 Silas Talbot.
 Gustavus Cunningham.
 Benjamin Dunn.
 John Ayres.
 William Stone.
 John Hazard.

Benjamin Knight.
 Edward Leger, disch'd.
 William Leeds.
 John Lewis, resigned.
 Muscoe Livingston, resigned July 27, 1778.
 Richard Marvin.
 Luke Matthewman, dead.
 John McIvers, resigned March 12, 1777.
 William Moran.
 Robert Martin.
 Jonathan Malbee.
 Alexander Murray.
 John McDowgal, lost in the Randolph.
 William Mollison.
 Robert Pomeroy, deserted.
 David Porter, resigned.
 Jonathan Pitcher.
 David Phipps.
 Benjamin Page.
 William Potts.
 James Pine, lost in the Saratoga.
 James Robertson, dead.
 John Rodez.
 Benjamin Reed, resigned.
 Peter Rosseau.
 Peter Richards.
 Robert Scott, discharged 19th September, 1776.
 Peter Shores, disgraced.
 John Sleymaker.
 Joshua Shackford, resi'd.
 John Scott.
 Robert Saunders.
 Matthew Tibbs.
 Adam W. Thaxter, dead.
 Joseph Vesey, dead.
 Thomas Vaughan, dead.
 Richard Wickes, killed on board the Reprisal.

Robert Wilson, resigned April 8, 1777.
 James Wilson, dead.
 David Welch.
 Hezekiah Welch.
 John Wheelwright.
 Jacob White.
 Hopeley Yeaton.
 Samuel York, resigned 8th July, 1779.
 Josiah Audibert.
 William Barron.
 Daniel Bears.
 Benjamin Barron.
 Edward Burke, deserted.
 Charles Bulkley.
 Seth Clarke.
 George Champlin.
 William Dupar.
 Joseph Doble.
 Wilford Fisher.
 James Grinwell.
 William Hopkins.
 Christopher Hopkins.
 William Ham.
 George Lovie.
 John Margisson.
 John Moran.
 William Morrison.
 Cutting Lunt.
 Henry Lunt.
 Isaac Olney.
 James Sellers.
 Daniel Starr.
 Benjamin Seabury.
 John Scranton.
 Nicholas Skull.
 James Stevens.
 Marie Sevel Dorie.
 John Robinson.
 Jacob White.
 Thomas Weaver.
 Daniel Vaughan.

MARINE CORPS.

CAPTAINS.

Samuel Nicholas; he was major of marines.
 Edward Arrowsmith.
 Seth Baxter.
 Abrahm Boyce.
 Isaac Craig, resigned.
 Benjamin Deane, resigned, 12th July, 1777.
 James Disney.
 William Holton, broke 11th of Dec., 1778.
 Joseph Hardy.
 William Jones.
 Dennis Leary.
 Robert Mullen, dead.
 William Morris.
 John Jerry Osborn.
 Andrew Porter, resigned.
 Richard Palmes.

Matthew Parke.
 Gilbert Saltonstall.
 Elihu Trowbridge, deserted.
 Miles Pennington, dead.
 John Hazard.
 John Welch.
 Samuel Shaw, lost in the Randolph.
 John Stewart.
 Joseph Shoemaker.
 John Elliot, dead.
 John Trevitt.
 William Matthewman.
 William Nicholson.
 Robert Elliot.
 ——— Rice.
 ——— Spence.

LIEUTENANTS OF MARINES.

Peter Bedford, resigned 5th July, 1779.
 Gurdon Bill.
 David Bill, dead.
 William Barney, dead.
 Peregrine Brown.
 James Cokeley, resigned.
 John Chilton, dead.
 David Cullam.
 Panatier de la Falconier.
 John Fitzpatrick, dead.

Thomas Elwood.
 William Gilmore, went into the land service.
 Samuel Gamage.
 Peter Green.
 Benjamin Huddle.
 Daniel Henderson, lost at sea.
 Richard Harrison.
 James Hamilton.
 Samuel Holt.

John Harris.
William Jennison.
David Love.
James McClure, resigned.
Abel Morgan, resigned.
Hugh Montgomery, re-
signed.
Robert McNeal, resigned
5th April, 1778.
Stephen Meade.
William Morris.
Alexander Neilson, re-
signed 5th April, 1778.
Samuel Powers.
Thomas Pownal.
Samuel Pritchard.
Thomas Plunkett.
Avery Parker.
Jerry Reed.
Franklin Reed.
Jabez Smith, dead.
Daniel Starr, dead.
Walter Spooner.
Go. Trumbull, discharged
4th March, 1778.
Nathaniel Twing, resig'd.
Thomas Turner.
Zebulon Varnum.
Abram Vandyke.
Jacob White.
James Warren.
William Waterman.
Wadsworth.
James Warren.
Jonathan Woodworth.
Samuel Wallingsworth.
James H. Wilson.
Abr'am Boyce, afterwards
appointed captain.

William Barney.
Henry Becker.
James Connolly, dead.
Seth Chapin.
James Clarke.
Robert Cummings.
Henry Dayton.
Robert Davis.
John Dimsdell.
William Cooper.
Benjamin Catlin.
Thomas Elting.
Stephen Earle.
Thomas Fitzgerald.
William Fielding.
Zebadiah Farnham.
John Guignace.
Samuel Hempstead.
John Harris.
William Hamilton.
Jonas Hamilton.
Roger Haddock.
William Huddle.
Robert Hunter.
Eugene McCarthy.
Peter Manifold.
Jonathan Mix.
Richard McClure.
Charles McHarron.
Kelly.
Daniel Longstreet.
William Radford.
Alpheus Rice.
Nathaniel Richards.
J. M. Strobach.
Benjamin Thompson.
Edmund Stack.
Lewis de la Valette.
Hugh Kirkpatrick.

Proceedings in Congress.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

Mr. WILLIAMS presented the joint resolutions of the Legislature of Maine instructing the Senators and requesting the Representatives to vote for the abolishment of the MILITARY ACADEMY at West Point; which were read, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HUNTINGTON, from the Committee on Commerce, reported on the resolution submitted, inquiring into the expediency of abolishing the revenue cutter service, and employing the navy, stating that it is inexpedient.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

Mr. EVANS, from the Committee on Finance, reported the House bill making APPROPRIATIONS for THE NAVAL SERVICE for the half calendar year beginning on the 1st of January, and ending on the 30th of June, 1843, and for the fiscal year beginning the 1st of July, 1843, and ending the 30th of June, 1844, with amendments, which consist mainly of the following, viz:

The Chief of the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing to be retained.

Striking out that clause which prohibits the appointment of any Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery who shall not have seen five years' sea service.

The bill from the House for the reduction of the pay and mileage of members of Congress, and the pay of the civil, military, naval, and other officers of Government, was read a first and second time by its title, and referred to the Committee on Retrenchment.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

On motion of Mr. EVANS the ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL, which had been returned from the House with an amendment, disagreeing to the amendment of the Senate, allowing the appointment of ten cadets from the country at large, was taken up.

Mr. EVANS moved that the Senate insist on the amendment, with the view of having a committee of conference.

The motion was negatived.

On motion of Mr. GRAHAM, the Senate receded from the amendment.

After the transaction of some other business, Mr. GRAHAM said, that since the recession of the Senate from the amendment, he had thought the matter of more importance than he before supposed it to be, and therefore moved to reconsider the vote by which the Senate had receded.

The vote was reconsidered, the motion to insist agreed to, and a committee of conference appointed.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

The NAVY APPROPRIATION BILL was taken up as in Committee of the Whole, and the amendments recommended by the Committee of Finance were read.

The first amendment, being merely verbal, was adopted.

The second was to strike out from the appropriation of \$300,000 for clothing for the navy the proviso, "That the duties of the Chief of the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing be hereafter discharged by a captain of the navy, who shall receive the same compensation that is allowed to the Chief of the Bureau of Dock Yards."

The third amendment was in the appropriation for surgeons' necessities and appliances for the sick and hurt of the naval service, including the marine corps, to strike out the proviso: "That hereafter no person shall hold the place of Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery who shall not have had five years of sea service."

HYDROGRAPHICAL OFFICE.

WEATHER JOURNAL FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1843.

Days.	THERMOMETERS.						Winds.	Rain, inches.
	Bar.	Alt.	Sun.	Rad.	Shade.	W. Bulb.	Dew Pt.	
Monday, 13th,	30.148	61°	34°	34	34°	32°	29°	0.555
Do.	30.130	59	34	34	34	30	30	
Tuesday, 14th,	30.152	59	34	34	34	25	25	
Do.	30.152	56	30	30	30	25	25	
Wednesday, 15th,	29.924	58	30	30	30	28	28	
Do.	29.730	53	33	33	33	32	30	
Thursday, 16th,	29.686	50	45	23	23	35	13	
Do.	29.086	53	47	20	20	18	14	0.555
Friday, 17th,	30.226	50	50	17	20	18	15	
Do.	30.288	55	50	17	20	19	15	
Saturday, 18th,	30.122	51	51	32	28	25	21	
Do.	30.202	52	51	32	28	15	9	
Do.	30.236	53	53	62	32	30	27	

Mean variation of the needle for the week, 1° 30' 19" 42 W.
Maximum, February 16, Thursday at 2 P. M., 1° 34' 49" 75 W.
Minimum, do. 8 P. M., 1° 23' 19" 75 W.

After considerable debate, the amendment was agreed to.

The fourth amendment was to strike out from the sources of general expenses to be paid, the words "for taxes and assessments on public property," which was adopted.

The amendments of the committee having been gone through with,

Mr. EVANS moved an amendment limiting the payment of arrearages due in the medical department to \$50,000; which was adopted.

He also moved to insert an appropriation of \$6,000 for carrying into effect the joint resolution of Congress, authorizing the establishment of two agencies, for the purchase of water-rotted hemp in Kentucky, and Missouri.

After some discussion, the proposed appropriation was limited to \$4,000, and adopted.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, moved further to amend the bill by inserting an item of \$100,000 for a dry-dock at Brooklyn, mentioned in the act of August, 1842, and the unexpended balances mentioned in said act of a floating dry-dock, upon the plan proposed by the commissioners appointed under the act of March, 1835.

Mr. EVANS moved to amend the amendment by striking out that part relating to the plan of the commissioners appointed under the act of 1835, and to insert, in effect, "upon such a plan as, upon a re-examination of the subject, may be prepared by the Secretary of the Navy, provided that it be of such capacity as to raise a ship of the line, and can be completed for the sum of \$250,000, of which \$100,000 is not to be paid until the dock is satisfactorily tested by the Navy Department."

Pending this question, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

The bill for the reduction of the pay and mileage of members of Congress, and the pay of the civil, military, naval, and other officers of Government, was passed.

The following are the provisions that relate to the Army and Navy:

"That the pay of all officers of the navy and all commissioned officers of the army, whose pay shall exceed one thousand dollars per annum, shall be reduced twenty per cent. on the amount now allowed by law; and the pay or allowance made for rations, fuel, quarters, servants, clothing, forage, horses, and the commutation or allowance for any other supplies shall be reduced twenty per centum: *Provided, however,* That the reduction of rations shall not be considered to extend to any officer who does not receive more than two rations per day; that no officer shall receive a greater pay for transportation of baggage than six cents per mile.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

Mr. PENDLETON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to divide the United States into two military districts. Referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

On motion of Mr. PENDLETON, the same committee was discharged from the further consideration of the resolution directing them to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the office of Major General of the army of the United States.

On motion of Mr. STOKELY,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Militia be instructed to inquire and report what amendments are necessary and proper to the laws of the United States, to insure the preservation of the public arms of the United States, distributed to the militia of the several States, and to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to which was referred a bill from the Senate and also a bill from the House, entitled "An act to authorize the adoption of measures for the occupation and settlement of the Territory of Oregon, for extending certain portions of the laws of the United States over the same, and for other purposes," reported the same without amendment, and recommended that said bills do not pass.

On motion of Mr. SMITH,

Resolved, That, in all future publications of the Army and Navy Register of the United States, there shall be affixed opposite the name of each person published therein, in separate columns, the annual pay of such officer or person the amount paid him for servants, and forage, and the gross amount paid or allowed him in all respects, for and on his account, and for and during the year preceding such publication.

Mr. BURNELL submitted the following resolution. The House refused to suspend the rules, and it was not received:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he hereby is, directed to report to this House, at the next session of Congress, a statement of the several vessels composing the squadrons of the United States for the last six years, together with the names of the commanders of such squadrons, and the names of the officer commanding each vessel of every squadron. Also, the foreign ports which each vessel has entered during the time of her remaining on her station, or while proceeding to it, and the time which she remained in each of said ports; and where the public service has been a cause of unusual detention that he state the same; and also, whether, in his opinion, any such vessels have remained unnecessarily long in foreign ports; whether the attention of the commander of any squadron has, in all such cases, been called thereto, what such cases have been, and what proceedings have been instituted in relation to them; and that hereafter the Secretary of the Navy report to this House annually, at the commencement of each session of Congress, a statement, as above, applicable to the current year.

On motion of Mr. WASHINGTON, the act to amend "An act making an appropriation [\$10,000] for a marine hospital at or near Ocracoke, in North Carolina," was taken up, amended on his motion, and by general consent, read a third time and passed.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and resumed the consideration of the amendments to the ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL.

The pending question was on concurring with the Senate in the following amendment:

"For the continuation of the improvements on the Missouri, Mississippi, and Arkansas rivers, for the half calendar year \$50,000, and for the fiscal year \$100,000."

The amendment was rejected.

The amendment of the Senate allowing the appointment of a cadet for the District of Columbia was concurred in.

The amendment of the Senate providing for the appointment of ten additional cadets at large, without reference to congressional districts, was rejected.

The committee then rose, and reported the amendments to the House.

On the question of concurring in the report of the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, rejecting the amendment of the Senate appropriating \$2,000 for the continuation of the meteorological observations at the military posts of the United States, under the direction of the Surgeon General.

The question was decided in the affirmative, and

so the amendment of the Senate (such being the effect of the vote) was concurred in.

The House concurred with the committee in its rejection of the amendment of the Senate, providing for the appointment of ten additional cadets at large, without reference to Congressional districts.

The House concurred in the amendment of the Senate, appropriating "for the continuation of the improvements on the Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio, and Arkansas rivers, for the half calendar year \$50,000, and for the fiscal year \$100,000."

The House concurred with the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union in all its other action on the amendments of the Senate, and the bill was returned to that body.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

The following "bill granting a pension to certain widows of Revolutionary soldiers," was passed.

Be it enacted, &c., That if any person who served in the Revolution in the manner specified in the act passed the seventh of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, have died leaving a widow, or may hereafter die leaving a widow, whose marriage took place after the expiration of his period of service, and before the first of January, one thousand eight hundred, such widow shall be allowed the pension herein directed, to wit: If the husband of said widow died previous to the fourth of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, said widow shall be entitled to receive, during her life, from the said fourth of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, the annuity or pension which might have been allowed to her husband in virtue of said act of June seventh, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, if living at the time it passed. If the husband of the said widow died subsequent to the third of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, said widow shall be entitled to receive, during her life, from the death of her husband, the annuity or pension which might have been allowed to her husband in virtue of said act of June seventh, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

In Committee of the Whole, the bill appropriating \$30,000 for a series of experiments to be made, in order to test the merit of Morse's electro magnetic telegraph, being taken up.

It was so amended as to authorize the experiments to be made under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury instead of the Postmaster General, and was laid aside to be reported to the House.

The following bill "providing the means of future intercourse between the United States and the Government of China," was passed:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of forty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated and placed at the disposal of the President of the United States, to enable him to establish the future commercial relations between the United States and the Chinese Empire on the terms of national equal reciprocity; the said sum to be accounted for by the President in the manner prescribed by the act of first of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety, entitled "An act providing the means of intercourse between the United States and foreign nations."

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

The bill making appropriations for the payment of navy pensions due on the 1st day of July, 1843, and on the 1st day of January, 1844, was passed.

A Committee of Conference was appointed on the subject of the disagreeing vote on the amendment of the Senate to the ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL, relative to the appointment of ten cadets at large.

We have been favored with the perusal of a letter dated on board the brig *Dolphin*, 26th January, on her arrival off Vera Cruz, in which it is stated that the commander-in-chief of the Mexican squadron refused her commander any communication with the American consul at Campeachy, and that in consequence he had proceeded to the above place in order to obtain from our minister, General Thompson, at Mexico, his instruction whether at all hazards to attempt a communication with the consul, or whether he should return with the vessel under his command to Pensacola.

The steamer William Gaston touched at Port Leon on the 27th ultimo on her way to New Orleans, with Pascoti's band of Creeks, under charge of Lieut. W. S. Henry, 3d infantry. The band numbers 52 persons; 22 warriors, 18 women, and 10 children. This is the band that has for so long a period infested the settlements bordering the Apalachicola, and which, by the energy and skilful management of Lieut. Col. Hitchcock, 2d department, were induced to come in. They are on their way to the west, and will embody themselves with those already at New Orleans under charge of Lieut. Britton, 7th infantry, and will proceed to Arkansas in a short time.—*Charleston Mer.*

Hotulkee, one of Oetiarchee's principal chiefs, died at New Orleans, on the 26th ultimo, of inflammation of the lungs.

ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.—Among the reports made to the Academy of Science of Paris, December 26, was one from M. de Humboldt, on the subject of connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by means of a canal at the Isthmus of Darien. If the statements made in this report be correct, the object can be accomplished with little difficulty and at a trifling expense. "He informs the Academy that the preparatory labors for cutting a canal across the Isthmus of Panama are advancing rapidly. The commission appointed by the Government of New Grenada for the construction of a canal to unite the two oceans has terminated its examination of the localities, and has arrived at a result as fortunate as it was unexpected. The chain of the Cordilleras does not extend, as was supposed, across the Isthmus; but, on the contrary, a valley very favorable to the operation has been discovered. The natural position of the waters is also favorable. Three rivers, over which an easy control may be established, and which may be made partially navigable, would be connected with the canal. The excavation necessary would not extend to more than 12½ miles in length. The fall may be regulated by four double locks, 138 feet in length; and the total length of the canal will be 49 miles, with a width of 135 feet to the surface, and 55 at the base; the depth will be 20 feet. The canal thus executed will be navigable by vessels of from 1000 to 1400 tons. According to the estimate of M. Morel, a French engineer, the total cost of this canal would be only 11,000,000*f*, including the purchase of two steamers."

ARMY.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ORDERS, } ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 12. } Washington, Feb. 16, 1843.

* * * * *

II. Paragraph 2, of "General Orders," No. 54, of 1842, directs that there be retained mounted, at the fortifications mentioned in that order, "one casemate gun and one in *barbette* per company" at each post.

Where there are no casemate guns, an additional gun in *barbette* may be substituted.

By COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT:

R. JONES, *Adj. Gen.*

NAVY.**GENERAL ORDER.**

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Feb. 15, 1843.

As a mark of respect to the memory of Commodore Isaac Hull, a distinguished officer of the United States navy, who died in Philadelphia on the 13th instant, the flags of the navy yards, stations, and vessels of the United States navy will be hoisted at half mast, and thirteen minute guns fired at noon on the day after the receipt of this order.

Officers of the navy and marine corps will wear crape on the left arm for thirty days.

A. P. UPSHUR.

Feb.

ORDERS.

- 15—Mid. John Laurens, ship St. Louis, Norfolk.
 16—Lieut. James H. Rowan, receiving-ship, N. Y.
 Lt. R. F. Pinkney, receiving-vessel, Baltimore.
 Lieut. William May, schooner Wave, Norfolk.
 Passed Mid. Henry P. Robertson, receiving-ship, Norfolk.
 P. Mid. Wm. E. Boudinot, frigate Brandywine.
 Mid. James Foster, rendezvous, Boston.
 17—Surgeon George Blacknall, appointed fleet surgeon of the East India squadron.
 Purser Rodman M. Price, ship St. Louis, Norfolk.
 Assist. Surgeon Chas. D. Maxwell, brig Truxtun, (after examination.)
 Passed Mid. Chas. E. Fleming, schooner Wave, as master.
 Mid. John S. Maury, schooner Wave, Norfolk.
 Mid. Stephen D. Spence, ship St. Louis, Norfolk.
 Carpenter William Lee, frigate Brandywine.
 Carpenter Jesse C. Morrison, steamer Union.
 Master's Mate Wm. H. Burns, detached from steamer Missouri, and leave one month.
 20—Commander W. W. McKean, Governor of the Naval Asylum, Philadelphia.
 Lieut. M. Hunt, detached from depot of charts.
 Pass. Mid. J. B. Randolph, depot of charts, &c., Washington.
 Boatswain Wm. Smith, brig Truxtun, Norfolk.
 Carpenter S. J. Seely, } detached from steamer
 21—Sailmaker C. Harvey, } Missouri.
 Carpenter J. A. Dickason, sloop St. Louis, Norfolk.

PROMOTIONS.

Passed midshipmen to be lieutenants:

- Montgomery Hunt, from 9th December, 1842,
vice L. Handy, deceased.
 Henry Eld, jr., from the 21st December, 1842,
vice A. Griffith, deceased.

Naval Intelligence.

BRAZIL SQUADRON.—List of officers attached to the several vessels on the 1st December, 1842.

DELAWARE, 74.

Commo. Charles Morris, (commanding squadron.)
 Captain Charles Stewart McCauley.
 Lieutenants, Samuel Barron, Charles C. Turner,
 Spencer C. Gist, Stephen C. Rowan, Cicero Price,
 Otway H. Berryman, Fabius Stanly.
 Fleet Surgeon, G. R. B. Horner; Purser, Samuel
 P. Todd; Chaplain, Charles Henry Alden; Acting
 Masters, William T. Smith, Benj. S. Gantt; Assist-
 ant Surgeons, J. Howard Smith, Stephen A. Mc-
 Creery, James B. Gould; Professor, Wm. B. Bene-
 dict.
 Marine officers: Captain Alvin Edson; Lieuts
 W. A. T. Maddox, and W. B. Slack.
 Passed Midshipmen, Wm. H. Macomb, Melancton
 B. Woolsey.
 Midshipmen, Thomas L. Dance, Abner Read,

John R. Hynson, Robert Clay Rogers, Maurice
 Simons, Charles W. Aby, John W. Bennett, Law-
 rence B. Robinson, Wm. D. Austin, Peter Keimble,
 Jonathan H. Carter, Edward C. Pasteur, Richard L.
 Law, Jesse M. Smith, John R. Barker, Wm. H.
 Fauntleroy, John Wilkes, Jr., Thomas C. Harris,
 Thomas M. Brodhead, Pendleton G. Watmough,
 William Mitchell, Robert B. Storer, Albert Allmand,
 Jefferson Maury; Commodore's Secretary, D. St.
 Leon Porter; Boatswain, Van Rensselaer Hall; Gun-
 ner, Thomas Robinson; Carpenter, Francis Sagee;
 Sailmaker, Nicholas Buck.

FRIGATE COLUMBIA.

Captain, Edward Rutledge Shubrick.
 Lieutenants, Nath'l W. Duke, Samuel E. Munn,
 John B. Cutting, Joseph F. Green, Samuel Larkin,
 John H. Sherburne.
 Surgeon, Solomon Sharp; Purser, John A. Bates;
 Acting Master, Theodore B. Barrett; Chaplain, Pho-
 tius Kavasales; Assistant Surgeon, Samuel R. Addi-
 son; Professor of Mathematics, Mordecai Yarnall.
 Midshipmen, Johnston B. Creighton, James M.
 Ladd, Alfred Bailey, Wm. K. Bridge, John T. Wal-
 ker, J. Van Ness Philip, Joseph J. Bartlett, Arthur
 H. Otis, Horace N. Crabb, Nicholas H. Van Zandt,
 Sylvanus J. Bliss, John E. Prentiss, Francis G. Dal-
 las, John Gale, James S. Thornton, Samuel Magaw,
 Thomas B. Shubrick, Elias Vander Horst, David N.
 McDermut, George H. Hare; Captain's Clerk,
 Clement H. Stevens; Master's Mate, Jonathan M.
 Ballard; Boatswain, George Williams; Gunner, S.
 Allen; Carpenter, Charles Boardman; Sailmaker,
 Charles Ferguson.
 Marine officer, 1st Lieutenant Jacob Zeilin.

SLOOP DECATUR.

Commander, David G. Farragut.
 Lieutenants, William McBlair, A. M. Pennock,
 A. R. Taliaferro.
 Purser, Thomas P. McBlair; Passed Assistant
 Surgeon, Charles A. Hassler; Acting Master, George
 W. Doty; Assistant Surgeon, Daniel L. Bryan.
 Midshipmen, Fenwick Stenson, Wm. A. Henry,
 James D. Bullock, Samuel A. Miller, Samuel Wil-
 cox, Julius S. Bohrer, Charles M. Mitchell, Tenant
 McLanahan; Boatswain, Joseph Lewis; Gunner,
 Thomas Dewey; Carpenter, John M. Webb.

SCHOONER ENTERPRISE.

Lieut. (now Commander,) James P. Wilson, com-
 manding.
 Lieutenants, Henry French, Francis B. Renshaw;
 Purser, Edward Bissell; Assistant Surgeon, James
 McClelland.
 Midshipman, Wm. B. Fitzgerald.

Sloop *Decatur* arrived at Norfolk Saturday, 18th
 instant. She sailed from Montevideo December 6,
 Rio de Janeiro December 24, Maranham Jan. 7, and
 the city of Para January 25.

She left at Montevideo the *Delaware*, 74, and frigate
Columbia. The schooner *Enterprise* was at Buenos
 Ayres. There were no American men-of-war in Rio,
 but the *Concord* and *John Adams* were hourly ex-
 pected from the coast of Africa. The *Delaware* was
 expected to sail from Montevideo from the 1st to the
 10th for the Mediterranean.

HOME SQUADRON.—Schooner *Boxer*, on a cruise,
 was parted company with on the 2d instant, off Stir-
 rup Keys.

Schooner *Grampus* will sail from Norfolk with the
 first fair wind.

Sloop *Marion*, Commander Armstrong, sailed from
 St. John's (Porto Rico) on the 31st January, on a
 cruise. Officers and crew all well.

LETTERS ADVERTISED.

WASHINGTON, February 15, 1843.

ARMY.—Brig. Gen. W. K. Armistead, Col. Clarke, Col. D. E. Twiggs, Assistant Surgeon C. M. Hitchcock.

NAVY.—Capt. Foxall A. Parker, Comm'r James Glynn, Lieuts. Simon B. Bissell, Sylvanus Gordon, Thomas T. Hunter, John N. Marshall, W. P. McArthur, John Lewis Ring, Purser John C. Holland, Mid. Copeland P. Jones.

MARINE CORPS.—Lieut. A. N. Gillespie, 4, Lieut. William L. Young.

Feb. ARRIVAL AT WASHINGTON.

Lieut. C. F. Wooster, 4th artillery, Fuller's.

PASSENGERS.

SAVANNAH, February 14, per steamer Gen. Taylor, from St. Augustine, Lieut. Barnum, U. S. A.

PENSACOLA, January 30, per steamer William Gaston, for New Orleans, Lieut. Henry, U. S. A., lady, two children, and servant.

Marriage.

In Pensacola, on Tuesday evening, January 31st, Lieut. ROBERT C. CALDWALL, U. S. marine corps, to Miss. J. T. FAUNTLEROY, of Virginia.

Deaths.

In New York, on Monday, the 13th inst., CAROLINE, A. G., youngest child of ROBERT N. NICHOLAS, Master U. S. navy.

In New York, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., MARY, wife of Lieut. T. AUGUSTUS CRAVEN, U. S. navy, in the 26th year of her age.

In Charlestown, Mass., Mrs. SARAH EASTON LADD TAYLOR, wife of Rev. FITCH W. TAYLOR, Chaplain in the U. S. navy.

In Augusta, Virginia, on Monday, January 13th, Gen. ROBERT PORTERFIELD, one the few remaining soldiers of the Revolution, and the oldest officer of his rank, perhaps, left in Virginia.

PROPOSALS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO REVENUE CUTTERS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Feb. 16, 1843.

SEALED PROPOSALS are invited, and will be received, at this office, until the 17th day of April next, for building the hulls and fitting the spars of two vessels, to be employed as Revenue Cutters, of the burden of about 150 tons; to be completely caulked, payed with pitch, and delivered in the water.

Each vessel to be built agreeably to a model and profile draft of spars, to be furnished upon entering into the contract, and of materials corresponding to the following dimensions and specifications, to wit:

Length, between perpendiculars, eighty-eight feet.
Breadth, moulded, twenty-two feet.
Hold, eight feet six inches.
Dead rise, twenty-four inches to half floor.
Keel of white oak, to be sided ten inches.
Dead wood, forward and aft, of live oak or locust, to be sided ten inches, to be bolted with copper three-quarters of an inch in diameter.

Stern post knee, of live oak, to be bolted with copper seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, two in the body and two in the arm, and riveted under the keel and aft side of the stern-post.

Inner stern-post, of live oak or locust, to be sided ten inches.
Apron, of live oak or locust, to be sided one foot three inches.
Fore dead wood and apron bolts, to be of copper, seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, one foot above deep ballast mark.

Floor timbers, of live oak; futtocks and top timbers, of locust or red cedar, sided six inches, moulded at floor heads eight inches, at the plank sheer five and a half inches; to be completely framed, the frame bolts to be three-quarters of an inch in diameter; every floor timber to be bolted with one copper bolt, in diameter seven-eighths of an inch; the alternate floor timbers to be bolted, after the keelson is fitted, with copper bolts, of the same diameter, and riveted under the keel.

Keelson, of white oak, to be sided ten inches.
Main transom, of live oak or locust to be bolted with two iron bolts, in diameter seven-eighths of an inch; the remaining transoms to side seven inches, and to be bolted with copper seven-eighths of an inch in diameter.

Knight heads and hause pieces, of live oak or locust, to be sided nine inches.

Outside plank. The wales, four in number, to be in thickness three and a half inches, about seven inches wide, fairly and gradually diminishing to thickness of the bottom plank, two and a half inches, of white oak, each streak of the wales to be fastened to one frame comprising two timbers, with three iron spikes, and one iron bolt of five-eighths of an inch in diameter, driven through and riveted on the inside; and from thence to the keel, the bottom planks will be fastened to the frames, with six inch composition spikes, and five-eighths copper bolts in the same manner. There will not be any treenails. Butt, and hood-ends bolts, to be three-quarters of an inch in diameter, of copper. The wales are to be plugged.

Plank-sheer of yellow pine, three and a half inches in thickness. The stanchions, to be of locust, to be placed to form seven ports on each side, with one between each port, and three abreast of the masts, on each side, to support the channels, and two on each side between the forward port and the bows. The bulwarks, from the stem to the stanchion of the forward port, to be of white oak, one and a half inches thick, thence to the stern of yellow pine, from one and a half to two inches in thickness, in narrow streaks. There are to be two stern ports; all the ports to have shutters.

The rails to be of oak or yellow pine.

Breast hooks, of live oak, two below the deck hook, fastened with copper bolts three-quarters of an inch in diameter. Clamps of white oak or yellow pine, in thickness at the upper edge three inches, lower edge two and a half inches, extending from stem to stern.

Beams, of yellow pine, to be sided nine inches, and moulded seven and a half inches; rounded two and a half inches; to be knec'd at each end, with one lodge, and one lap knee; to be sided five inches, excepting the mast beams, which are to have a dagger knee, in lieu of the lap knee, to be bolted with iron in diameter three-quarters of an inch.

The grub knees of the half poop to be bolted with iron three-quarters of an inch in diameter, and the bulkheads secured from deck to deck with iron bolts seven-eighths of an inch in diameter. Deck plank, of yellow pine, three inches in thickness, not to exceed five inches wide amidships, to be fastened with iron spikes and plugged.

The bowsprit to be of yellow pine, the masts of yellow pine; other smaller spars of spruce, of the dimensions noted on the draft. The mast partners of live oak and knec'd.

The cat-heads and stern davits of oak.
Salt stops to be placed where required.

Cross-steps of white oak, bolted with iron, one inch in diameter, and properly secured on the keelson.

The ceiling plank, white oak to the floor-heads, thence to the clamps of yellow pine, two inches in thickness, fastened with iron.

Berth deck of ash or yellow pine, two inches in thickness, orlop, or fixed with hatches, raised about fourteen inches above the running deck, extended from the fore to the mainmast. Cabin deck yellow pine one and three-quarters of an inch in thickness.

The arrangement of the decks and half poop (twenty-four feet in length, and sixteen inches high, from the main deck) as may be directed, with bits, scuttles, hatchways, skylights, caviis, cleats, &c., completed.

The shoe, ten inches in thickness amidships, tapering to the stem and stern post, of oak, fastened with copper bolts three-quarters of an inch in diameter, and with suitable composition spikes.

The materials used in the construction to be approved by such officer of the Revenue service as the Secretary of the Treasury may appoint.

The vessels to be completed within ninety days from the date of the contract, and the workmanship to be inspected previous to delivery by two competent judges, one to be chosen by each of the parties to the contract, who, in the event of their disagreement, are to choose a third, who are to determine whether the work has been executed in all respects conformably to the proposal and agreement.

The proposals to be endorsed "Proposals for building Revenue Cutters."

The Department reserves to itself the right of altering the model so as to increase or diminish the tonnage of one or both vessels, as may be deemed expedient. The proposals will therefore state what deduction will be made from the offers in case it may be determined to build one of 125 tons, and what increase in case the other should be 175.

W. FORWARD,

Secretary of the Treasury.

Feb 16—lawt17A

The Madisonian; Republican and Sun, Baltimore; American Sentinel and Evening Mercury, Philadelphia; Union and Standard, New York, will copy this advertisement, and present the account to the collectors of the respective ports for payment.

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

SYNOPSIS OF THE CRUISE OF THE EXPLORING EXPEDITION, by its Commander, Lt. Charles Wilkes, with a chart, showing the tracks of the vessels.

BITUMEN: its varieties, properties, and uses, compiled from various sources, by Lieut. H. Wager Halleck, U. S. Corps of Engineers, under the direction of Col. J. G. Totten, Chief Engineer.

PRINTING of every description promptly and neatly executed at this office.